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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/751,718	01/05/2004	Siu Wing Or	MCHK/149/US	2247
2543	7590	02/06/2008	EXAMINER	
ALIX YALE & RISTAS LLP 750 MAIN STREET SUITE 1400 HARTFORD, CT 06103			BUDD, MARK OSBORNE	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2834		
		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
		02/06/2008	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/751,718	OR ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mark Budd	2834	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-4,6-13 and 15-20 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-4,6-13 and 15-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

Claims 1-4,6-13 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable Wright in view of Hansen and combined with Porzio. In figure 2 Wright shows a wire bonding apparatus having a wire bonding tool #23 at one end of an amplification horn #14 and which has a mounting flange #15 at the other end of the horn. The device is driven by a generic ultrasonic transducer which may include a magnetostrictive driver. Hansen teaches a high power ultrasonic transducer can have a higher efficiency by using a prestressed magnetostrictive Terfenol-D material combined with a first field generator to provide a bias field and a second field generator to providing a magnetic drive field. Porzio (note figure 5 and column 5 lines 40-52) teaches a further enhanced output can be obtained by combining the Terfenol- D (rare earth based alloy) layers with samarium cobalt layers (rare earth based alloy) separated from one another by a layer of epoxy (passive polymer material). It has long been held that selection from among known, suitable materials is within the skill expected at the routine. Thus, to select the specific well known magnetostrictive materials used by Porzio in the giant magnetostrictive arrangement of Hansen and place it into the generic system of Wright in order to provide a predictable increase in power and efficiency would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Regarding applicant's comments, prestressing and fastening of the magnetostrictive material can be found in Hanson, column 12, wine 36-column 13, line 11. Applicant has argued that there is "no motivation to combine the ... references". The examiner disagrees, noting that the statement of rejection clearly sets forth that a device with higher efficiency would be expected from combining the known attributes of each reference. Applicant further argues that the Hansen and Wright references are not analogous to each other. Again, the examiner disagrees. Both references can be found in class 310/26 which pertains to magnetostrictive devices. Applicant states that there are "there are no problems with the ultrasonic transducer in the Wright apparatus, thus, there is no motivation for a skilled practitioner to improve or modify it." . Again, the examiner disagrees. Businesses and inventors are always motivated to improve something as technology changes. The shape of the Terfenol-D rod is not seen as an issue in the current claims and rejection.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Budd whose telephone number is 571-272-2019. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg, can be reached on 571-272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Mark Budd
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2834